GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1151
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2006
INDO- RUSSIA AGREEMENT ON SPACE EXPLORATION
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Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Russia proposes to conduct joint space exploration and transfer of space technology under space cooperation agreement;

(b) if so, the details and the salient features of such agreement;

(c) the progress made so far with respect to the said agreement; and

(d) the extent to which India will be benefited thereby?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a)&(b) Under Agreement signed on December 3, 2004 between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the field of Exploration and Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes, there is provision for joint space exploration and joint development of technologies in selected areas to be separately agreed upon. This Agreement provides a legal and organisational framework for carrying out different activities of mutual interest.

(c) Several cooperative activities including joint development, operation and utilization of the Russian global navigation satellite system GLONASS, joint development of a scientific satellite called Youthsat, Indian contribution to a Russian scientific satellite called Coronas-Photon are under various stages of development.

(d) Cooperative activities with Russia under this Agreement will provide India with opportunities to expand the scope of its programmes, to optimise the use of resources and to make quicker progress in different areas.